

statewide hotline for domestic violence victims and is poised to receive grant funding from the federal government to set up the nationwide 1-800 hotline for victims of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Section 316 of the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (42 U.S.C. 10401 et seq.), as added by Section 40211, Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (Pub. L. No. 103-322), signed into law by President Clinton on September 13, 1994, provides funds for a National Domestic Violence Hotline Grant to fund a 1-800 hotline for victims of domestic violence; and the Texas Council on Family Violence has worked for two years to obtain private and public money to establish such a hotline; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby petition the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award to the Texas Council on Family Violence the National Domestic Violence Hotline Grant to set up a national hotline for victims of domestic violence; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas Secretary of State forward official copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the president of the senate and speaker of the house of representatives of the United States Congress, all members of the Texas delegation to the congress, and to the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the request that this resolution be entered in the *Congressional Record* as a petition to the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Adopted by the Senate on January 30, 1995. Adopted by the House on May 27, 1995.

Approved May 31, 1995.

Filed with the Secretary of State, May 31, 1995.

#### S.C.R. No. 16

#### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of Justice, sex offenders are far more likely than other felons to repeat their crimes; recent studies indicate that sex offenders who begin engaging in such conduct when they are juveniles average 380 sex crimes during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Early intervention by the justice system and initiation of appropriate treatment strategies are necessary to reduce the personal suffering and social cost of sex crimes, and there is a greater likelihood that offenders will receive proper treatment if there is a greater understanding of sexual abuse cases among the legal professionals who initially come into contact with perpetrators and victims of these offenses; and

WHEREAS, Board certified family law attorneys and criminal, county, and district attorneys are the members of the legal profession most likely to be on the front lines in dealing with sexual abuse cases, and these attorneys should be required to have specialized continuing education in the characteristics and effects of sexual abuse and the nature of sex offenders; and

WHEREAS, The Texas Supreme Court has the authority to regulate the practice of law and to exercise administrative control over the State Bar of Texas by promulgating rules for the operation, maintenance, and conduct of the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, Article XII of the State Bar Rules establishes the minimum continuing legal education requirements that every active member of the bar must meet to remain current on the law and to foster and maintain the high ideals, integrity, learning, and competence in public service that are expected of members of the legal profession; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 56, Government Code, creates the judicial and court personnel training fund administered by the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals and authorizes that court to adopt rules for programs relating to education and training for certain judges, prosecuting attorneys, criminal defense attorneys, and court personnel; and

WHEREAS, Since the issue of sexual abuse is an increasingly growing problem and its impact on innocent victims is so severe, actions must be taken to make certain that the perpetrators and the victims receive the proper treatment; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby urge the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals to promulgate rules to institute a continuing education curriculum on sexual abuse issues with particular emphasis on the effects and characteristics of sexual abuse cases and the nature of sex offenders and that this program be required of all board certified family law attorneys and criminal, county, and district attorneys licensed to practice law in this state; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the Texas Supreme Court and Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

Adopted by the Senate on March 22, 1995; the Senate concurred in House amendment on May 3, 1995, by a viva-voce vote. Adopted by the House, with amendment, on April 28, 1995, by a non-record vote.

Approved May 16, 1995.

Filed with the Secretary of State, May 16, 1995.

#### S.C.R. No. 17

##### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Experts consider domestic violence to be a learned behavior in many instances, which indicates that effective intervention requires a therapeutic approach; and

WHEREAS, Outcome studies have shown that completion of batterers intervention programs does help men develop better communication skills, learn to abate anger, learn conflict resolution skills, gain respect and reduce animosity toward women; and

WHEREAS, Many perpetrators of domestic violence are not provided an opportunity to modify their abusive behavior because of a lack of intervention programs in Texas; and

WHEREAS, In 1989, the 71st Legislature established the Battering Intervention and Prevention Project as part of the community justice assistance division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice; the project, Texas' first direct involvement in domestic violence prevention through specialized programs to rehabilitate offenders, is a vital supplement to law enforcement and criminal justice systems in responding to domestic violence; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby request the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to raise the funding priority of all diversion-targeted programs including, but not limited to, battering intervention and prevention programs in order to increase offender services and provide adequate counseling; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the 74th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby request that any additional discretionary funds be used to fund new and innovative programs which include, but are not limited to, battering intervention and prevention programs.

Adopted by the Senate on February 8, 1995. Adopted by the House on May 27, 1995.

Approved June 17, 1995.

Filed with the Secretary of State, June 17, 1995.

#### S.C.R. No. 18

##### SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Violence in our society is pervasive, so that almost every professional in a helping field comes in contact with someone who has been a victim of violence; and

WHEREAS, The dynamics of domestic violence are unique and are often misunderstood by professionals who have had no training on the topic, and such uninformed professionals may harm rather than help the victims they serve; and

WHEREAS, There is a dearth of instruction provided in psychology and social work degree programs, and in universities in general, related to recognizing and addressing domestic violence issues; now, therefore, be it